

## Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma

RESOLUTION #19-53 July 17, 2019

## RESOLUTION

Whereas, The Pawnee Business Council is the supreme governing body of the Pawnee Nation and is authorized to conduct business on behalf of the Pawnee Nation in accordance with Article IV, Sections 1 and 2 of the Pawnee Nation Constitution and By-Laws; and

Whereas, The Pawnee Business Council met in special session on July 17, 2019, at the Pawnee Nation Resource Complex, duly authorized, with a quorum present; and

Whereas, the Pawnee Nation are signatories to the Model Tribal Gaming Compact, the State's offered terms of which are codified at 3A.O.S. Section 281, as those terms have been approved by the Secretary of Interior and supplemented from time to time, (hereinafter the "Compact"); and

Whereas, as to the State, the Compact was approved by a vote of the citizens of the State of Oklahoma on November 4, 2004; and

Whereas, the Chief Executive Officer for the State of Oklahoma, Governor Kevin Stitt, issued a letter dated July 5, 2019 addressed to the Tribal leaders in Oklahoma and others, including the Pawnee Nation, declaring his repudiation of the Compact and proposing to negotiate a new Class III gaming compact out of whole cloth; and

Whereas, Governor Stitt's repudiation of the Compact, if implemented, would violate the Compact's express terms authorizing parties' rights to request renegotiation of only select provisions, i.e., subsections A and E of Part 11; and

Whereas, the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma has expended significant capital contributions within the State of Oklahoma, most importantly in rural areas, that would otherwise be non-existent without gaming tribes in Oklahoma; and

Whereas, Governor Stitt has made no proposal of any terms or otherwise proposed a framework for any renegotiation of terms; and

Whereas, the current Compacts, as negotiated and approved by the Secretary of Interior and upon which the State, the Pawnee Nation and its Tribal business partners have relied, represent a continuing and mutually beneficial partnership between us, which create competition and diversity in the Oklahoma economy, creates jobs and contributes to the wealth, health and prosperity of Oklahomans, especially rural Oklahomans; and

Whereas, notwithstanding Governor Stitt's declarations, it is the position of the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma that its Compact will automatically renew on January 1, 2020, barring any attempted bad faith interference arising from Governor Stitt's declarations.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma do hereby memorialize our intent to reject the State's attempt to unlawfully and unilaterally terminate the Compact.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma supports the continued exclusivity fee structure and amounts outlined in the Compact.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma is willing to support negotiations for a Class III compact but first must recognize the carefully negotiated and balanced approach between the Pawnee Nation and the State contained in the current compact.

## CERTIFICATION

I, Patricia McCray, Secretary of the Pawnee Business Council, certify that a Special Meeting of the Pawnee Business Council was held on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of July 2019 and that the Pawnee Business Council is composed of eight members, of whom <u>8</u> were present, <u>0</u> absent, comprising a quorum, and the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by a vote of <u>7</u> for, <u>0</u> against, <u>0</u> abstaining, and <u>1</u> not voting.

Signed this 17th day of July 2019 ATTEST:

Patricia McCray, Secretary Pawnee Nation Business Council

James Whiteshirt, President Pawnee Nation Business Council